

Pinus strobus - Quercus alba - (Carya alba) / Gaylussacia ursina Forest

COMMON NAME	Eastern White Pine - White Oak - (Mockernut Hickory) / Bear Huckleberry Forest
SYNONYM	Appalachian White Pine - Mesic Oak Forest
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Forest (I)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Mixed evergreen-deciduous forest (I.C)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Mixed needle-leaved evergreen - cold-deciduous forest (I.C.3)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/Semi-natural (I.C.3.N)
FORMATION	Mixed needle-leaved evergreen - cold-deciduous forest (I.C.3.N.a)
ALLIANCE	<i>Pinus strobus - Quercus (alba, rubra, velutina)</i> Forest Alliance
CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL	2
USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM	Upland

RANGE

Globally

This community occurs in the low mountains of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, and may possibly range into Tennessee.

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This association was not observed or sampled on the Mount Le Conte or Cades Cove quadrangles but is likely in low elevation, disturbed areas of the Cades Cove quadrangle and in other parts of the Park.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

This association includes mesic pine - oak - hickory in the southern Blue Ridge escarpment and in the Piedmont transition, occurring below 2900 feet elevation, on protected ridges, mid to upper slopes, and in disturbed bottoms.

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No information

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree canopy	<i>Pinus strobus, Quercus alba, Carya alba, Acer rubrum</i>
Subcanopy	<i>Cornus florida, Halesia tetrapetala, Oxydendrum arboreum, Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Tall shrub	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
Short Shrub	<i>Gaylussacia ursina</i>
Herbaceous	(variable)

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<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
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No information

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Globally

Pinus strobus, Quercus alba, Carya alba, Liriodendron tulipifera, Magnolia fraseri, Thelypteris noveboracensis, Polystichum acrostichoides, Goodyera pubescens, Medeola virginiana, Mitchella repens

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VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

Canopies are dominated by variable mixtures of *Pinus strobus, Quercus alba, Carya alba, and Acer rubrum*. Other canopy species may include *Liriodendron tulipifera, Tsuga canadensis, Quercus rubra, Quercus prinus, and Magnolia fraseri*. Subcanopy and saplings include canopy species and *Cornus florida, Halesia tetrapetala, Oxydendrum arboreum, and Nyssa sylvatica*. Shrub layers are moderate to dense, with *Gaylussacia ursina* and *Kalmia latifolia* most commonly dominating. Other shrubs include *Rhododendron minus, Rhododendron maximum, Symplocos tinctoria, Arundinaria gigantea, Castanea dentata*,

Sassafras albidum, *Amelanchier arborea*, *Pyrularia pubera*, and *Hydrangea radiata*. The herb stratum is sparse, although ferns (*Thelypteris noveboracensis* and *Polystichum acrostichoides*) may occasionally dominate. Common herbs include *Chimaphila maculata*, *Viola hastata*, *Goodyera pubescens*, *Maianthemum canadense*, *Polygonatum biflorum*, *Monotropa uniflora*, *Trillium catesbeianum*, *Desmodium nudiflorum*, *Eupatorium purpureum*, *Galium circaeoides*, *Galium latifolium*, *Galax urceolata*, *Hexastylis shuttleworthii*, *Medeola virginiana*, *Mitchella repens*, and *Houstonia purpurea*.

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No information

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

No information

CONSERVATION RANK G2G3

RANK JUSTIFICATION

This community is geographically restricted and uncommon within its range.

DATABASE CODE CEGL007517

COMMENTS

Globally

This community occurs in more topographically protected situations than does the more xeric forest *Pinus strobus* - *Quercus (coccinea, prinus)* / (*Gaylussacia ursina* - *Vaccinium stamineum*) Forest (CEGL007519).

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In some occurrences, *Pinus strobus* may overtop the deciduous canopy component, resulting in a signature similar to other *Pinus strobus*-dominated vegetation (i.e. *Pinus strobus* / *Kalmia latifolia* - (*Vaccinium stamineum*, *Gaylussacia ursina*) Forest (CEGL007100), *Pinus strobus* - *Quercus (coccinea, prinus)* / (*Gaylussacia ursina* - *Vaccinium stamineum*) Forest (CEGL007519), *Pinus strobus* - *Tsuga canadensis* / *Rhododendron maximum* - *Leucothoe fontanesiana* Forest (CEGL007102)).

REFERENCES

Schafale and Weakley 1990